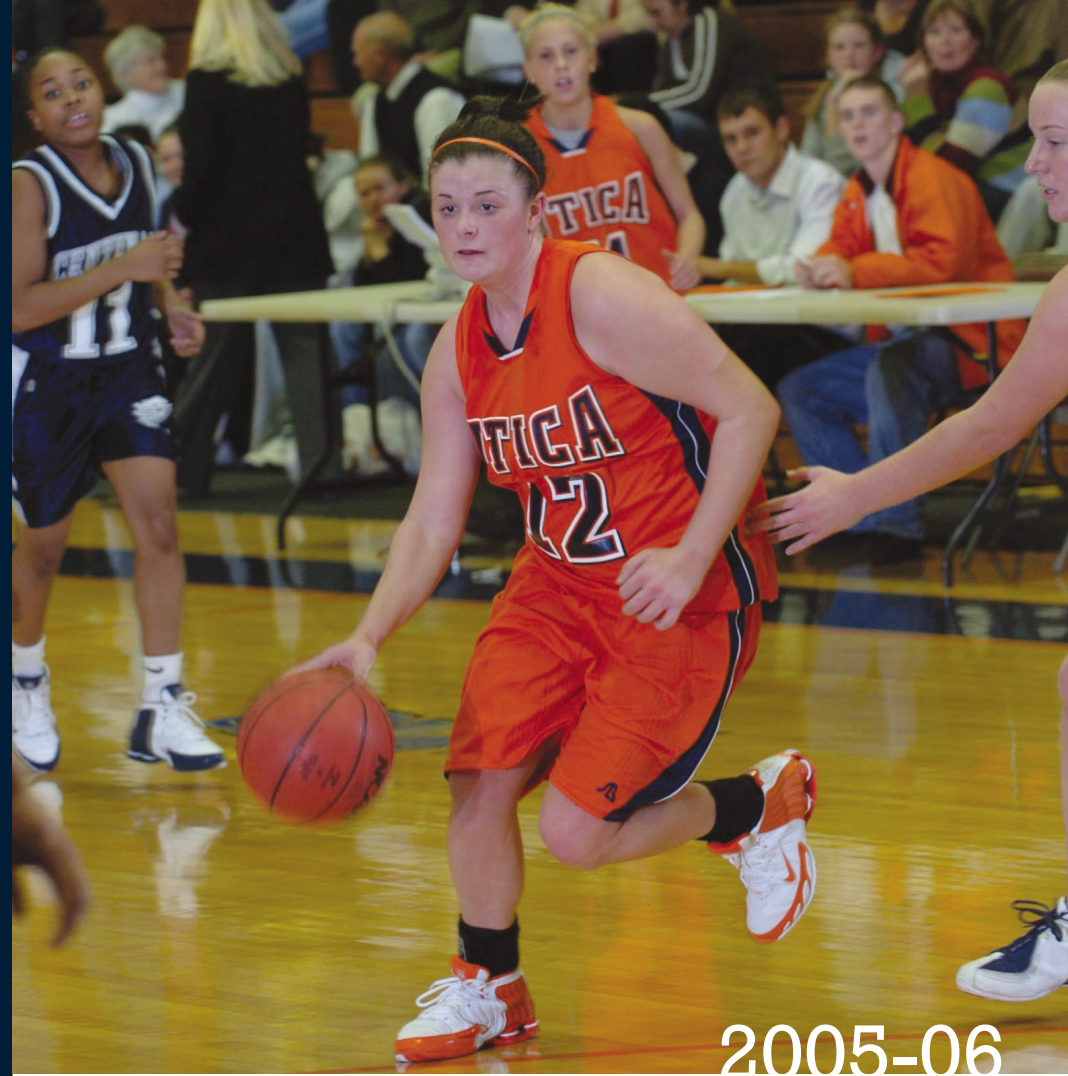


# 2005-06 SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Time
Nov. 18	Fri.	Utica College Tip off vs. Centenary	Home	6/8:00 PM
Nov. 19	Sat.	Utica College Tip off vs. Lehman	Home	1/3:00 PM
Nov. 21	Mon.	Oneonta State	Away	6:00 PM
Nov. 29	Tues.	Hamilton	Away	7:00 PM
Dec. 1	Thur.	Union	Home	7:00 PM
Dec. 4	Sun.	Cazenovia	Home	2:00 PM
Dec. 10	Sat.	SUNYIT	Away	6:00 PM
Jan. 3	Tues.	Clarkson	Home	4:00 PM
Jan. 6	Fri.	St. John Fisher*	Home	6:00 PM
Jan. 7	Sat.	Alfred*	Home	2:00 PM
Jan. 10	Tues.	Southern Vermont	Away	5:00 PM
Jan. 13	Fri.	Hartwick*	Away	6:00 PM
Jan. 17	Tues.	Russell Sage	Away	6:00 PM
Jan. 20	Fri.	Elmira*	Home	6:00 PM
Jan. 21	Sat.	Ithaca*	Home	2:00 PM
Jan. 27	Fri.	Nazareth*	Away	6:00 PM
Jan. 28	Sat.	RIT*	Away	2:00 PM
Feb. 3	Fri.	Alfred*	Away	6:00 PM
Feb. 4	Sat.	St. John Fisher*	Away	2:00 PM
Feb. 7	Tues.	Oswego State	Away	6:00 PM
Feb. 10	Fri.	RIT*	Home	6:00 PM
Feb. 11	Sat.	Nazareth*	Home	2:00 PM
Feb. 17	Fri.	Ithaca*	Away	6:00 PM
Feb. 18	Sat.	Elmira*	Away	2:00 PM
Feb. 21	Tues.	Hartwick*	Home	6:00 PM
Feb. 25-26	Sat./Sun.	Empire 8 Tournament	TBA	TBA

\* Empire 8 Conference Game



2005-06

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



# QUICK FACTS

LOCATION	Utica, NY
FOUNDED	1946
ENROLLMENT	2,650
PRESIDENT	Todd S. Hutton, Ph.D.
NICKNAME	Pioneers
COLORS	Blue/Orange
AFFILIATION	NCAA Division III
CONFERENCE	Empire 8
HOME COURT	Clark Athletic Center
CAPACITY	2,200

## COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH	Michele Davis (Albany '97)
ASSISTANT COACH	Sarah Bolten (St. Francis '05)

## DIRECTORY

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR	James Spartano jspartano@utica.edu (315) 792-3051 (315) 792-3211 fax
BASKETBALL OFFICE	(315) 792-3052
SPORTS INFORMATION	Gil Burgmaster gburgmaster@utica.edu (315) 792-3772 (315) 792-3818 fax

ADMISSIONS	(315) 792-3006 admiss@utica.edu
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WEB SITE	www.utica.edu/athletics
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# HEAD COACH

## MICHELE DAVIS

Michele Davis returns to Utica for her sixth season as head coach of the Lady Pioneers women's basketball program. Davis was elevated to head coach in the fall of the 2000 after serving as the team's assistant for two years. She has also served as an assistant coach at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). Recent achievements include, 2004-2005 WBLA/Russell Athletic Division III Region II coach of the year and 2002-2003 Empire 8 coach of the year.

Prior to starting her coaching career, Davis enjoyed a heralded collegiate career on the hardwood. Her playing career began at Herkimer Community College (HCCC), where she captured several national and team honors, including two Region III Player of the Year selections, a pair of All-American selections, the 1995 HCCC Female Athlete of the Year, a 1996 New England Collegiate Conference (NECC) Honorable Mention, and a 1997 second team NECC selection. She also holds several national junior college scoring records. After completing her two-year career at HCCC, where she holds the career scoring record, Davis attended the University at Albany. Davis currently holds school records for scoring, three-point shots, and blocked shots at the Division II school.

Davis earned a bachelor's degree in english and history from the University at Albany in 1997. She currently resides in Clinton, NY.

# 2004-05 RESULTS

Date	Opponent	W-L-T	Score	Date	Opponent	W-L-T	Score
11/19	vs. Lehman	Away	W 49-31	1/21	St. John Fisher*	Away	L 72-60
11/20	vs. SUNYIT	Away	W 59-44	1/22	Alfred*	Away	W 70-57
11/30	Hamilton	Home	L 76-54	1/28	Nazareth*	Home	W 64-41
12/2	Union	Away	L 76-52	1/29	RIT*	Home	W 50-49
12/5	Cazenovia	Away	W 67-63	2/1	Oswego State	Home	L 70-63
12/9	Oneonta State	Home	L 67-59	2/4	Elmira*	Away	W 89-72
12/11	SUNYIT	Home	W 70-40	2/5	Ithaca*	Away	L 63-59
1/4	Clarkson	Away	W 49-39	2/11	RIT*	Away	W 51-38
1/7	Ithaca*	Home	L 58-53	2/12	Nazareth*	Away	W 69-59
1/8	Elmira*	Home	W 63-43	2/18	Alfred*	Home	W 54-43
1/11	Southern Vermont	Home	W 102-45	2/19	St. John Fisher*	Home	W 48-45
1/14	Hartwick*	Home	L 56-46	2/22	Hartwick*	Away	W 71-65
1/18	Russell Sage	Home	W 70-57	2/26	St. John Fisher Empire 8 Tourn.	Away	L 73-62

# OVERVIEW

The 2005-06 Utica College women's basketball team looks to continue its success after becoming one of the elite teams in the Empire 8 Conference and making a quarterfinal appearance in the Eastern College Athletic Association (ECAC) Upstate Women's Basketball Championships a year ago.

The 2004-05 Lady Pioneers finished 17-10 overall and 10-4 in the Empire 8, giving them a tie for second place in the conference standings and the No. 3 seed in the conference tournament. The team also made the ECAC Tournament for the second season in three years, and head coach Michele Davis is aiming at a third consecutive post-season appearance. "As long as we stay injury free and everyone buys into the system, we should definitely finish as one of the top four teams in the Empire 8," explained Davis, who is entering her sixth season as head coach. "That will give us a great opportunity at either an NCAA Tournament bid or an ECAC Tournament bid, which are both team goals."

Notable losses due to graduation from last year's squad include **Alicia Ventresca** and **Janine Hayes**, who were both named as Empire 8 All-Conference Honorable Mentions. Ventresca capped off her stellar career with a remarkable senior season, starting all 27 contests and finishing with averages of 12.4 points, 3.4 rebounds, and 2.0 steals per game, while also shooting 32 percent from behind the arc. Hayes also finished her four-year UC career with a standout senior campaign, averaging 9.9 points, 6.4 rebounds, and 1.8 steals per game, while shooting 40 percent from the field, 31 percent from 3-point land, and 69 percent from the free throw line in 27 starts.

Returning to the hardwood this season will be seniors **Corrina Rustmann** and **Michelle Ironside**. Rustmann is an explosive player with excellent rebounding skills and great speed. She appeared in all 27 contests last season, averaging 7.1 points, 4.6 rebounds and a team-best 2.1 steals per game, while also leading the team in field goal percentage (49%). Ironside, who stands at 6-foot-2, brings a lethal combo of an inside-outside game for the Pioneers. She can post up and rebound inside, while also possessing the skills to drive to the basket or pull up and hit the three. She finished last season with averages of 5.6 points and 4.1 rebounds per game, while shooting 42 percent from the floor and a team-best 83 percent from the free throw line.

Also returning to the lineup is junior **Ava Thomas** and sophomore **Dana Danziger**. Thomas is coming off a spectacular season, becoming coach Davis' first player to ever make the Empire 8 All-Conference First Team. She led the team in points (13.4) and rebounds (7.0), and was ranked fourth and seventh in the conference in those categories, respectively. Out of the 12 statistical categories in the conference, Thomas remarkably finished in the top 10 in seven of them. Danziger will once again take the responsibilities of the point guard position after logging 31 minutes per game as a freshman last year. Her 3.5 assists per game were a team-best, and her 0.94 assist-to-turnover ratio ranked fourth in the conference.

This season will also feature a very strong class of incoming recruits. Leading the group will be guard **Whitney Frament**, an excellent three-point shooter with a high basketball IQ on both ends of the floor. Guards **Mallory Davis** and **Jennifer Payton** will also see action due to their solid defense and strong offensive games. Rounding out the recruits is forward **Kristen George**, a strong rebounder who will add intensity off the bench.

With a young, athletic team assembled, Davis is eager to get her players out on the court.

"I am excited about the start of our season," exclaimed Davis, who was named the WBCA/Russell Athletic Division III Region 2 Coach of the Year last season. "I feel we brought in a very good unit of student-athletes, and our returning players will really lead the way for the new players to help this team succeed."



# 2005-06 ROSTER

#	Name	Pos	Yr	Ht.	HS/Hometown
4	AVA THOMAS	F	JR	5-11	St. Raymond's/Bronx
11	CORRINA RUSTMANN	G/F	SR	5-10	EO Smith/Storrs, CT
12	WHITNEY FRAMENT	G/F	FR	5-7	Catholic Central/Waterford
21	KAREN CRISANTI	F	SO	5-11	Geneva/Geneva
22	MALLORY DAVIS	G/F	FR	5-7	Rockville/Vernon Rockville, VT
25	KRISTEN GEORGE	F	FR	5-9	Ballston Spa/Ballston Spa
31	DANA DANZIGER	G	SO	5-4	Point Pleasant/Point Pleasant, NJ
44	MICHELLE IRONSIDE	C	SR	6-2	Oneida/Oneida



# PLAYER SHOWCASE



**Name:** AVA THOMAS

JUNIOR FORWARD BRONX, NY

**DAVIS:** "Ava is one of the top scorers and rebounders in our conference. She has a soft touch around the basket and can also hit the outside jumper."

**2004-05:** Averaged team-bests of 13.4 points, 7.0 rebounds, and 1.0 block per game.

**Personal:** The daughter of Angela Thomas, Ava is a psychology major.



**Name:** DANA DANZIGER

SOPHOMORE POINT GUARD POINT PLEASANT, NJ

**DAVIS:** "Dana is one of the best point guards in the Empire 8 Conference."

**2004-05:** Averaged 3.8 points and a team-high 3.5 assists in 26 contests as a freshman.

**Personal:** A math major, Dana is the daughter of Deborah and Robert Danziger.



**Name:** CORRINA RUSTMANN

SENIOR FORWARD WILLIMANTIC, CT

**DAVIS:** "Corrina can and will carry this team on her back. She gives and leaves everything that she has on the court."

**2004-05:** Appeared in 27 contests and averaged 7.1 points, 4.6 rebounds and 2.1 steals per game.

**2003-04:** Averaged 8.9 points, 6.1 rebounds, and 1.5 steals per game in 25 contests.

**Personal:** A psychology major, Corrina is the daughter of Denise and Rich Rustmann.



**Name:** WHITNEY FRAMENT

FRESHMAN SHOOTING GUARD WATERFORD, NY

**DAVIS:** "Whitney is an excellent three-point shooter and a very smart player on both the offensive and defensive ends on floor. We expect great things from her."

**Personal:** A communication arts major, she is the daughter of Kimberly and Barry Frament.



**Name:** MICHELLE IRONSIDE

SENIOR CENTER ONEIDA, NY

**DAVIS:** "Michelle is extremely versatile. She drives strong to the basket, has some excellent back-to-the-basket moves, and can shoot the three."

**2004-05:** Averaged 5.6 points and 4.1 rebounds in 27 games.

**2003-04:** Led the team in rebounding per game (7.0 rebounds) and total blocks (20), and finished second in scoring per game (10.3 points)

**2002-03:** Participated in all 27 Lady Pioneer contests.

**Personal:** A business management major, Michelle is the daughter of Kathy and Bruce Ironside.

# ASSISTANT COACH



**SARAH BOLTEN**

Sarah Bolten is entering her first year as the assistant coach of the Lady Pioneers basketball program. She has worked various basketball camps at such institutions as Norte Dame, Butler University, St. Francis University and Northern Kentucky University.

Bolten played college basketball for two years at both Butler University and St. Francis University where she scored more than a1,000 points in her career. She was a part of two NEC Conference championship and two NCAA tournament teams with St. Francis as a junior and senior.

Bolten graduated in 2005 with a B.A. in psychology from St. Francis in Loretto, PA and is currently working on her Master of Science in liberal studies at Utica College.